

LISTING OF CLAIMS

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An apparatus for loading material into a hauling vehicle, said hauling vehicle including a storage area for holding said material, comprising:

a receiving member for receiving material thereon and transferring said material toward said storage area, said receiving member having a vehicle end positioned toward said vehicle and a loading end positioned away from said vehicle, said loading end to include a retaining wall extending upward from the outer edge of said loading end facing away from said vehicle, to retain material on said loading end, said receiving member being movable between a deployed position extending away from said vehicle and positioned for the placement of material on said loading end and a transfer position in which said receiving member is positioned to transfer material placed on the loading end toward said hauling vehicle;

a connector for rotatably connecting said vehicle end of said receiving member to said vehicle proximate said storage area; and

operation means for moving said receiving member between said deployed position and said transfer position.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said loading end includes a base member, ~~the said~~ said base member ~~positioned while the receiving member is in deployed position at a lower~~ being sized and configured to be at an elevation above the ground surface lower than the elevation of said storage area of said hauling vehicle when said receiving member is in said deployed position and

~~said the base member being proximate the ground surface where said material is located for loading, the base member~~ also being connected to said vehicle end of said receiving member said the vehicle end of said receiving member being positioned at forming an angle in the range of from about 120 degrees to about 160 degrees with the from said base member.

3. The apparatus of claim 2 1 wherein said loading end includes a base member, said base member being sized and configured to be at an elevation above the ground surface lower than the elevation of said storage area of said hauling vehicle when said receiving member is in said deployed position, and said base member also being connected to said vehicle end of said receiving member, said vehicle end of said receiving member being positioned at an angle from the angle formed by said base member and said vehicle end is in the range of about 145 degrees to about 180 degrees.

4. The apparatus of claim 2 1 wherein ~~the angle formed by said base member and said vehicle end is in the range of~~ said loading end includes a base member, said base member being sized and configured to be at an elevation above the ground surface lower than the elevation of said storage area of said hauling vehicle when said receiving member is in said deployed position, and said base member also being connected to said vehicle end of said receiving member, said vehicle end of said receiving member being positioned at an angle from about 90 degrees to about 145 degrees.

5. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein, ~~following the loading of material on said base member in the deployed position said operation means is activated~~ operable to lift said base member ~~and the material thereon into said transfer position wherein in which~~ the base member is elevated to

cause the any material on said base member to slide with the force of gravity ~~down the base member and thenceforth down the vehicle end and~~ into said storage area.

6. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said receiving member includes a guide member located at said vehicle end positioned proximate said storage area and oriented to direct material from said vehicle end into said storage area, when said receiving member is positioned in the transfer position.

7. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said base member includes a frame and canvas material disposed over said frame.

8. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said base member includes a flat metal sheet, formed in the shape of a tray, for receipt of said material thereon.

9. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said receiving member has opposite sides extending above and away from said vehicle end, and wherein said receiving member has side walls attached to extend upwardly from said receiving member proximate said opposite sides.

10. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said operation means includes a reel attached to said hauling vehicle and a cable attached to said receiving member, said reel being configured to be operable to wind and unwind said cable to move said receiving member between said deployed position and said transfer position.

~~11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said operation means includes a worm gear mechanism.~~  
(Cancelled)

~~12. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said operation means includes a hydraulic ram mechanism connected to a hydraulic system of the hauling vehicle.~~ (Cancelled)

13. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said connector includes a hinge attached to said vehicle end of said receiving member, and to a rear support member of said hauling vehicle.

14. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said connector includes a pivot mechanism.

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